

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a sustained-release composition, which comprises mixing an aqueous solution containing a ~~physiologically active substance~~ **compound represented by the general formula:**

**5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg-Pro-Z (SEQ ID NO: 1)**

**wherein Y represents DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer (tBu), D2Nal or DHis (ImBz1) and Z represents NH-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> or Gly-NH<sub>2</sub> and an acid or base acetic acid** in a molar amount of about 1.5 ~~to about 5~~ or more times that of the **compound** ~~physiologically active substance~~ with a solution of a **lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer in a low water-soluble organic solvent to obtain a W/O type emulsion,** biodegradable polymer, and then drying the **emulsion** mixture.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution is obtained using a salt of the **compound** ~~physiologically active substance~~ with **acetic acid** ~~the acid or base~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the proportion of the **compound** ~~physiologically active substance~~ in the sustained-release composition is about 0.001 to about 50% by weight.

4. (Currently Amended) A method for stabilizing a **W/O type emulsion** ~~mixture~~ of an aqueous solution containing a **compound represented by the general formula:**

**5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg-Pro-Z (SEQ ID NO: 1)**

**wherein Y represents DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer (tBu), D2Nal or DHis (ImBz1) and Z represents NH-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> or Gly-NH<sub>2</sub> physiologically active substance and a solution of a lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer in a low water-soluble organic solvent** biodegradable polymer, which comprises adding **to the aqueous solution acetic acid** ~~an acid or base~~ in a molar

amount of about 1.5 to about 5 ~~mol or more~~ times that of the compound ~~physiologically active substance~~.

5. (Currently Amended) A method for allowing a W/O type emulsion ~~mixture~~ of an aqueous solution containing a compound represented by the general formula:

5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg-Pro-Z (SEQ ID NO: 1)

wherein Y represents DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer (tBu), D2Nal or DHis (ImBz1) and Z represents NH-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> or Gly-NH<sub>2</sub> ~~physiologically active substance~~ and a solution of a lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer in a low water-soluble organic solvent ~~biodegradable polymer~~ to have a viscosity of about 3,000 cp or less, which comprises adding to the aqueous solution acetic acid ~~an acid or base~~ in a molar amount of about 1.5 to about 5 ~~mol or more~~ times that of the compound ~~physiologically active substance~~.

6-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to any one of claims 1, 4 and 5, wherein said acetic acid is used ~~the acid or base~~ in a molar amount of about 1.65 to about 3 times that of the compound ~~physiologically active substance is used~~.

11-15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1[[15]], wherein the molar ratio of lactic acid to glycolic acid in the lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer is 100:0 to 50:50.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1[[16]], wherein the molar ratio of lactic acid to glycolic acid in the lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer is 100:0.

18. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1[[15]], wherein the weight average molecular weight of the lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer is 5,000 to 50,000.

19. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1[[15]], wherein the weight average molecular weight of the lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer is 17,000 to 30,000.

20. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the **lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer** ~~biodegradable polymer~~ is a lactic acid polymer having a weight average molecular weight of 15,000 to 50,000 and the content of a polymer having a weight average molecular weight of 5,000 or less in said lactic acid polymer is 5% by weight or less.

21. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~biodegradable polymer~~ is a lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer **has** ~~having~~ about 20 to about 1,000  $\mu\text{mol}$  of terminal carboxyl per unit mass (gram) of the polymer.

22. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the molar amount of the terminal carboxyl of the **lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer** ~~biodegradable polymer~~ is about 0.1 to about 5 times that of the **compound** ~~physiologically active substance~~.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Currently Amended) The method according to **any one of claims 1, 4 and 5** ~~claim 23~~, wherein the low water-soluble organic solvent is dichloromethane.

25-27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The method according to **any one of claims 1, 4 and 5** ~~claim 27~~, wherein the particle size of the W/O type emulsion is very small.

29. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the drying of the **W/O type emulsion** ~~mixture~~ is in-water drying.

30. (Original) The method according to claim 29, wherein an aqueous solution of an osmotic pressure regulating agent is used as an outer aqueous phase on the in-water drying.

31. (Original) The method according to claim 30, wherein the osmotic pressure regulating agent is mannitol.

32. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the sustained-release composition is in the form of a microparticle.

33. (Original) The method according to claim 32, wherein the microparticle is a microsphere or a microcapsule.

34. (Currently Amended) A method for producing a sustained-release composition, which comprises mixing an aqueous solution containing 1) a **compound represented by the general formula:**

**5-oxo-Pro-His-Trp-Ser-Tyr-Y-Leu-Arg-Pro-Z (SEQ ID NO: 1)**

**wherein Y represents DLeu, DAla, DTrp, DSer (tBu), D2Nal or DHis (ImBz1) and Z represents NH-C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub> or Gly-NH<sub>2</sub> physiologically active substance and 2) acetic acid**  
~~an acid or base~~ in an amount of about 0.1 to about 20% by weight of said aqueous solution with a solution of a **lactic acid-glycolic acid polymer in a low water-soluble organic solvent to obtain a W/O type emulsion,** ~~biodegradable polymer,~~ and then drying the **emulsion** ~~mixture~~.

35. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 34, wherein the aqueous solution is obtained using a salt of the **compound** ~~physiologically active substance~~ with **acetic acid** ~~the acid or base~~.

36. (Original) A sustained-release composition produced by the method according to claim 1.

37. (Canceled)

38. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein Y represents DLeu and Z represents Gly-NH<sub>2</sub>.

39. (New) the method according to claim 1, wherein the viscosity of the W/O type emulsion is in the range of about 3,000 cp or less at about 12 to 25°C.